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<b>(21) International Application Number:</b> PCT/EP98/07313  <b>(22) International Filing Date:</b> 16 November 1998 (16.11.98)  <b>(30) Priority Data:</b> 97120096.9 17 November 1997 (17.11.97) EP  <b>(71)(72) Applicant and Inventor:</b> KUFER, Peter [DE/DE]; Am Kapellenacker 13, D-85368 Moosburg (DE).  <b>(72) Inventors; and</b> <b>(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only):</b> RAUM, Tobias [DE/DE]; Zentnerstrasse 20, D-80798 München (DE). BORSCHERT, Katrin [DE/DE]; Zaubzerstrasse 14, D-81677 München (DE). ZETTL, Florian [DE/DE]; Düwellstrasse 13, D-87435 Kempten (DE). LUTTERBÜSE, Ralf [DE/DE]; Frauenhoferstrasse 29, D-80469 München (DE).  <b>(74) Agent:</b> VOSSIUS & PARTNER; Siebertstrasse 4, D-81675 München (DE).		<b>(81) Designated States:</b> AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>

**(54) Title:** METHOD OF IDENTIFYING BINDING SITE DOMAINS THAT RETAIN THE CAPACITY OF BINDING TO AN EPITOPE

**(57) Abstract**

The present invention relates to a method of identifying binding site domains that retain the capacity of binding to an epitope when positioned C-terminal of at least one further domain in a recombinant bi- or multivalent polypeptide. The present invention further relates to a kit comprising components such as panels of recombinant vectors of bacterial libraries transfected with a panel of recombinant vectors which is useful in carrying out the method of the invention. Furthermore, binding site domains and fusion proteins obtainable by the method of the invention as well as antibody-like molecules comprising such domains and proteins are described. Furthermore, pharmaceutical and diagnostic compositions containing the above-described fusion proteins and polypeptides are provided.

**Recombinant bifunctional single-chain protein**